Court, New Delhi. An amount of Rs. 9.75 crores (approx.) has also been recovered from the Company.

Defaulters of IFCI

2739. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought an explanation from the IFCI regarding various projects funded by it where the promoters are defaulting;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response given by the IFCI and the steps taken to tighten its grip over the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) IFCI Ltd. has reported that the following steps have been taken to tighten the grip of IFCI Ltd. over the defaulters.

(I) Restructuring programmes have been formulated in 103 cases involving an amount of Rs. 4139 crores during 2001-2002.

(ii) steps are also taken for reaching Negotiated/One Time Settlement (OTS) of dues.

(iii) Efforts are being made by IFCI to intensify the recovery of dues through Corporate Debt Restructuring System introduced by RBI.

(iv) Settlement of dues through DRTs/Courts.

(v) The Board of Directors of IFCI has constituted a sub-committee of Directors to review the top Non-Performing Assets (NPAs).

Customs Duty on Edible Oils

2740. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether customs duty on edible oils was increased two years back to give a fair play to indigenous growers; and

(b) if so, whether indigenous edible oil prices has since risen very high, if so, whether additional customs duty is proposed to be withdrawn to make it available to consumer on competitive prices and the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In general, indigenous prices have gone up. Similarly international prices have also gone up in the corresponding period. Keeping in view the interest of both oil seed growers and consumers, the Government has decided not to make any change in the customs duty rate on edible oil for the present.

Smuggling of Narcotics

2741. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of hashish (Narcotic) from Nepal to India has increased enormously during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether Government have investigated the reasons behind this; and

(c) if so, the conclusions of the investigation and the steps taken to check smuggling and apprehend the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Although smuggling is a clandestine activity, the trend of seizures of hashish from Nepal to India, as reported by the different Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, does not show any significant variation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Non-Functional ATM in PHA

2742. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Bank of India ATM installed in the Parliament House Annexe is non-functional often due to which